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Office Action Mailed 08/02/2004
Amendment Dated August 26, 2005
Examiner Wing F. Chan
Serial No. 10/716,972
Docket: TEL 001 P2 CI 5

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 48 (Cancelled)

49. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a conferencing suite in a room, said method comprises the steps of:

providing modular components comprising a plurality of walls, at least one of said plurality of walls having a display associated therewith, said display being capable of displaying a substantially life-size image of at least one remote person situated at a remote location;

assembling said modular components to define the suite within the room; and
situating a plurality of audio-visual components in said suite so that a video-conference may be conducted during which said plurality of audio-visual components generate a substantially life-size image of said at least one remote participant on said display so that persons positioned in front of said display will see substantially life-size image of said at least one remote participant displayed on the display.

Office Action Mailed 08/02/2004
Amendment Dated August 26, 2005
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Serial No. 10/716,972
Docket: TEL 001 P2 CI 5

50. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

decorating said suite with a plurality of furnishings;

mounting at least one of said plurality of audio-visual components on said plurality of furnishings so that it is not visible to a participant during a video conference.

51. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 50 wherein said at least one of said audio-visual components comprises a microphone.

52. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 50 wherein said at least one of said audio-visual components comprises at least one speaker.

53. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

making said plurality of modular components from at least one of the following: gypsum, clay-based material, ceramic, paper, cardboard, foam, wood, or styrofoam.

54. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said suite comprises a height of ~~less than~~ about 8 feet, 6 inches.

Office Action Mailed 08/02/2004
Amendment Dated August 26, 2005
Examiner Wing F. Chan
Serial No. 10/716,972
Docket: TEL 001 P2 CI 5

55. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 54 wherein said room comprises dimensions of ~~at least~~ about 20 feet x 20 feet by 9 feet.

56. (Cancelled)

57. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said plurality of modular components comprises either a dropped or sunken ceiling.

58. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 56 wherein said plurality of walls define a non-rectangular polygonal shape.

59. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 58 wherein said polygonal shape comprises an octagonal.

60. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 56 wherein at least two of said plurality of walls comprise different widths.

Office Action Mailed 08/02/2004
Amendment Dated August 26, 2005
Examiner Wing F. Chan
Serial No. 10/716,972
Docket: TEL 001 P2 CI 5

61. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 56 wherein said plurality of furnishings comprise a table situated in proximate modular components comprise a plurality of walls.

62. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing participants in a video conference to be situated a predetermined distance from said display.

63. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 62 wherein said predetermined distance is ~~at least~~ about 5 feet, 6 inches.

64. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

decorating said suite with a plurality of subjects to facilitate defining a predetermined sensory setting.

Office Action Mailed 08/02/2004
Amendment Dated August 26, 2005
Examiner Wing F. Chan
Serial No. 10/716,972
Docket: TEL 001 P2 CI 5

65. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 64 wherein said decorating step comprises the step of:

decorating said suite with a table and at least one of a table decoration, a pillar decoration, a wall decoration to enhance the predetermined sensory setting.

66. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in ~~claim 65~~ claim 64 wherein said predetermined sensory setting defines at least one of business setting, education setting, seminar setting, home environment, religious setting, or celebration setting.

67. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 65 wherein said predetermined sensory setting defines at least one of business setting, education setting, seminar setting, home environment, religious setting, or celebration setting.

68. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 67 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

decorating said suite with a plurality of furnishings;
mounting at least one of said plurality of audio-visual components on said plurality of furnishings so that it is not visible to a participant during a video conference.

Office Action Mailed 08/02/2004
Amendment Dated August 26, 2005
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Serial No. 10/716,972
Docket: TEL 001 P2 CI 5

69. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 68 wherein said at least one of said audio-visual components comprises a microphone.
70. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 68 wherein said at least one of said audio-visual components comprises at least one speaker.
71. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 67 wherein said method further comprises the step of:
making said plurality of modular components from at least one of the following:
gypsum, clay-based material, ceramic, paper, cardboard, foam, wood, or styrofoam.
72. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 67 wherein said suite comprises a height of ~~less than~~ about 8 feet, 6 inches.
73. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 72 wherein said room comprises dimensions of ~~at least~~ about 20 feet x 20 feet by 9 feet.
74. (Cancelled)

Office Action Mailed 08/02/2004
Amendment Dated August 26, 2005
Examiner Wing F. Chan
Serial No. 10/716,972
Docket: TEL 001 P2 CI 5

75. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 67 wherein said plurality of modular components comprises either a dropped or sunken ceiling.

76. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 74 wherein said plurality of walls define a non-rectangular polygonal shape.

77. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 76 wherein said polygonal shape comprises an octagonal.

78. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 74 wherein at least two of said plurality of walls comprise different widths.

79. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 67 wherein said plurality of furnishings comprise a table situated in proximate modular components comprise a plurality of walls.

80. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 67 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing participants in a video conference to be situated a predetermined distance from said display.

Office Action Mailed 08/02/2004
Amendment Dated August 26, 2005
Examiner Wing F. Chan
Serial No. 10/716,972
Docket: TEL 001 P2 CI 5

81. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said predetermined distance is at least about 5 feet, 6 inches.

82. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

decorating said suite with a plurality of subjects to facilitate defining a predetermined sensory setting.

83. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said plurality of audio-visual components comprises a plurality of cameras, said method further comprising the steps of:

decorating said suite with a plurality of furnishings comprising a plurality of chairs to be used by participants at the suite;

situating said plurality of chairs such that each participant seated in said chairs are located in the field of view of only one of said plurality of cameras.

Office Action Mailed 08/02/2004
Amendment Dated August 26, 2005
Examiner Wing F. Chan
Serial No. 10/716,972
Docket: TEL 001 P2 CI 5

84. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said plurality of audio-visual components comprises at least one camera, said method further comprising the steps of:

decorating said suite with a plurality of furnishings comprising at least one chair to be used by at least one participant at the suite;

situating said ~~plurality of chairs~~ at least one chair such that said at least one participant faces said at least one camera when seated on said at least one chair.

85. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

decorating said suite with a plurality of furnishings comprising at least one chair to be used by at least one participant at the suite;

situating said ~~plurality of chairs~~ at least one chair such that said at least one participant faces said display when seated on said at least one chair.

Office Action Mailed 08/02/2004
Amendment Dated August 26, 2005
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Serial No. 10/716,972
Docket: TEL 001 P2 CI 5

86. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 84 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

decorating said suite with a plurality of furnishings comprising at least one chair to be used by at least one participant at the suite;

situating said ~~plurality of chairs~~ at least one chair such that said at least one participant faces said display when seated on said at least one chair.

87. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

providing a ceiling as one of said plurality of modular components.